

JUNE GRASO - JG

TIM TINDALL - TT

MICHAEL LEVINE - ML

STAT

T.V. STATION - CHANNEL 4 NEWS

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TT: During the Rewald trial today the testimony of the witnesses took a backseat to the conduct of the defense attorneys. June Graso has a report on that.

This is John Mason, a 25-year veteran of the CIA who testified that he signed Rewald to a secrecy agreement in Los Angeles in June of 1979. But Rewald contends that this is not the John Mason he met with in L.A. Yesterday Judge Harold Fong refused defense requests to get a sample of Mason's signature for comparison purposes. So the defense attorney served Mason with a subpoena late yesterday and had him sign it with the usual procedure. The government said today that was just a subterfuge to get a sample of Mason's handwriting and Judge Fong ruled that the serving of the subpoena was an unreasonable and oppressive use of the court process and ordered it quashed. The Judge also said the conduct of the defense attorneys may constitute contempt and he ordered them to file papers 21 days after the trial ends, explaining why they should not be held in contempt. Federal Public Defender Michael Levine said he's definitely holding back on his defense of Rewald because he's afraid and intimidated by the CIA, the government and the Judge.

[ML: Arrayed against us, all the forces of the United States government and all of their armor and all of their agencies, and all we just hope but, ah I suspect that the truth, will never emerge in this case.]

JG: When the defense continued its cross-examination of Mason, they brought out some inconsistencies. For example, why was a document requesting security approval for Rewald dated June 8, 1979 but stamped June 8, 1978. Had there been any alterations asked the defense.

Mason answered, the stamp machine was in error. For KITV 4 News, June Graso.